

What’s at Stake – 2024 Election Guide

October 2024

This brief provides a quick overview of former President Donald Trump’s and Vice President Kamala Harris’ likely positions related to public health, HIV and health care. It also highlights resources for nonprofits to learn about allowable election activities and to access election and voter information. Candidate positions are compiled from information included in the party platforms or comments made by the candidates. **HIVMA and the Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition sponsored by HIVMA are nonpartisan and do not endorse political candidates or political party platforms.**

HEALTH CARE POLICY POSITIONS

Harris-Walz Positions	Trump-Vance Positions
Access to Health care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The platform addresses disparities in health care and makes sure every American has access to quality, affordable health care. - Vice President Harris stated in the September debate that her Administration would “maintain and grow” the Affordable Care Act and specifically noted the need to eliminate the ability of insurance companies to deny people with pre-existing conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lower health care costs through “choice and competition.” - “Never give up” on repealing and replacing the ACA. -Senator JD Vance indicated the Trump Administration would reform regulations to “allow people with similar health situations to be in the same risk pools,” which would create different risk pools depending on health status.
Medicaid/Medicare	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support for expanding Medicaid coverage in all states, providing Medicaid-like coverage to people in states that have not expanded Medicaid and “making it easier for parents to keep children on Medicaid.” - “Will make Medicare permanently solvent by making the wealthy pay their fair share in Medicare taxes.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will “fight for and protect social security and Medicare with no cuts, including no changes to the retirement age.” -The Trump Administration proposed block granting Medicaid funding and work requirements as a condition of eligibility. - Architects of President Trump’s health policy have stated a commitment to restructure Medicaid financing, including block grants or caps to create “more robust eligibility determinations” and add work requirements.
Drug Pricing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Biden-Harris Administration signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law allowing the federal government to negotiate Medicare drug prices among other provisions. -Under the IRA, Medicare Part D plans and Part B providers must limit the cost sharing for insulin to \$35. - The Food and Drug Administration authorized Florida’s Prescription Drug Importation Program in Jan. 2024. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Trump Administration Implemented a voluntary, time-limited program for Medicare Part D plans to offer insulin with no more than a \$35 co-payment. -The Trump Administration issued a rule to lower Medicare drug prices through the Most Favored Nation Model blocked by legal challenges. -The Trump Administration issued a rule to create a pathway for prescription drug importation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND HIV-RELATED PROGRAMS AND POLICIES

Harris-Walz Positions	Trump-Vance Positions
Infectious Diseases	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Biden-Harris Administration established Office of Pandemic Preparedness and Response Policy. - The Biden-Harris Administration maintained HIV funding in the CDC’s fiscal year 2025 budget and has moved to “modernize systems and processes to better share science and data.” - The Biden-Harris Administration proposed a new ID add-on code for complex inpatient ID care in the 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule. - The Biden-Harris Administration included in the FY 2023, 2024 and 2025 budgets a proposal to stimulate antibiotic/antifungal R&D by delinking revenue from the volume of drugs used (aligned with the PASTEUR Act). - The Biden-Harris Administration proposed a \$19.6 million increase for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for FY 2025. - The Biden-Harris Administration proposed modest funding increases CDC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Trump Administration created Operation Warp Speed to quickly develop COVID vaccines. - The Trump Administration “probably” would disband the Office of Pandemic Preparedness and Response Policy. - The Trump Administration finalized the Medicare condition of participation rule requiring antimicrobial stewardship programs in hospitals. - The House Republican majority proposed in their FY 2025 funding bill splitting NIAID into two institutes, cutting funding for ID research by \$3.2 billion and cutting CDC funding by 22%. -The Trump Administration proposed cuts to CDC in all of the Administration’s budgets.
Funding for HIV & Ending the HIV Epidemic Programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will continue implementation of a national strategy to end the HIV epidemic in this country. - Will address the disproportionate impact of infectious diseases, including HIV and hepatitis C. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Trump Administration created and initiated the Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. plan to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030. - House Republicans have proposed funding cuts that would eliminate the EHE program.
Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supports expanded access to PrEP to end the HIV epidemic. - As a senator from California, Harris sponsored legislation to increase access to PrEP. - As governor of Minnesota, Walz signed legislation allowing pharmacists to prescribe and administer PrEP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Trump Administration created Ready, Set, PrEP, a program to provide HIV prevention medication donated by a pharmaceutical company to people without prescription drug coverage; however, the program no longer takes new clients due to low uptake and the availability of low-cost generic PrEP options.
LGBTQI+ and Gender-Affirming Care	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will seek to pass the Equality Act to codify protections for LGBTQI+ Americans and their families. - Will seek to prohibit discrimination by the federal government for LGBTQI+ individuals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would prohibit gender-affirming care under many circumstances and specifically for young people. - Likely to require that the Health Resources and Services Administration withdraw support from the Ryan White Program for gender transition procedures or gender-affirming care.

POSITIONS ON ISSUES AFFECTING PEOPLE WITH HIV AND THE ID/HIV WORKFORCE

Harris-Walz Positions	Trump-Vance Positions
Reproductive Health	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Biden-Harris Administration restored rules requiring participating Title X Family Planning Program entities to offer a full range of contraceptives and pregnancy options. - Has stated strong support for restoring Roe v. Wade through federal legislation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clients served by the Title X Family Planning Program decreased from 3.9 million to 1.5 million under the Trump Administration because of rules not allowing co-location of abortion services or abortion referrals. - Takes credit for overturning <i>Roe v. Wade</i> as a result of Supreme Court appointments made by President Trump. - Supports states setting abortion policies.
Immigration Health	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Biden-Harris Administration expanded Medicaid and ACA health coverage for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. - The Biden-Harris Administration revoked a prior Trump Administration proclamation suspending entry of immigrants who did not purchase qualifying health plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Likely Trump Administration officials have suggested moving the Office of Refugee Resettlement out of the Department of Health and Human Services and into the Department of Homeland Security. - As a vice presidential candidate, Vance falsely stated HIV cases in Springfield, Ohio, have increased as a result of immigration policies supported by Vice President Harris. Officials state cases have not risen.
Overdose and Harm Reduction	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committed to increasing access to naloxone and “will continue critical investments in lifesaving medication and care for Americans struggling with addiction and most at risk of overdose.” - The Biden-Harris Administration sought \$10 million in new funding for the Community Harm Reduction and Engagement Initiative. - The Biden-Harris Administration released a model law for states to ensure access to syringe services programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committed to stopping “open-border policies that have opened the floodgates to ... deadly drugs” and to mobilizing military personnel to crack down hard on drug cartels. - Trump Administration officials backed needle exchange as part of a comprehensive program to prevent HIV among people who use drugs. - A former Trump Administration surgeon general continues to urge states to adopt syringe services programs.
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Biden-Harris Administration issued an executive order to advance diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in the federal government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Trump Administration issued an executive order on “race and sex stereotyping” that banned federal government programs and contractors from offering DEI training. - Senator Vance introduced the Dismantle DEI Act in Congress to eliminate all federal DEI programs.

NONPROFIT GUIDELINES FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

During elections, nonprofit organizations may participate in issue education and other nonpartisan activities, such as voter registration. However, federal tax law prohibits nonprofits from supporting or opposing candidates for public office. The chart below summarizes general guidance for nonprofits in this area. This material was sourced from nonprofit election participation experts with [Alliance for Justice](#).

Allowed	Not Allowed
Education Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individuals employed by nonprofits may endorse, support or oppose candidates, but they may not use a nonprofit organization’s financial resources, facilities or personnel to do so. When making a statement or endorsement, an individual should be unambiguously clear that the statement or action reflects that of the individual and not that of the nonprofit. - Nonprofit programs may provide educational materials to candidates or parties about their issues. - Organizational websites or online activities are treated the same as printed materials or broadcasts and may not be used for partisan activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 501(c)(3) organizations may not endorse or oppose candidates for elected public office. - Provision of educational materials about issues should be provided to all candidates and parties. - Nonprofits should not distribute candidate or party campaign materials. - Do not link to partisan material (such as a blog or a third-party website) that provides partisan content. - Do not pay for the distribution of partisan campaign materials or allow staff or facilities to be used for such distribution. - The IRS states that a nonprofit should not ask candidates to pledge to support its position on an issue since it would imply that the group favors candidates who agree to make the pledge and opposes those who refuse (e.g., an endorsement).
Voter Registration Drives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep voter registration nonpartisan. - Make registration (and any available swag) available to everyone, even if they don’t register. - Use neutral phrases to encourage participation and focus on issues. - Ensure you understand the specific voting rights laws in your state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refrain from supporting a party or candidate (and do not coordinate with a party). - Do not suggest for whom individuals should vote. - Avoid outreach to specific neighborhoods or populations or use messaging that could be seen as biased towards a particular candidate or party.
Host a Debate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nonprofits may host candidate forums and debates. These events must include all <i>viable</i> candidates from all parties. - The topics discussed and the questions asked by the sponsoring organization should be nonpartisan. - Ensure that the event moderator is neutral and nonpartisan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refrain from commenting (implicitly or explicitly) about whether candidates align with the organization’s goals (or are “good” or “bad”). - Do not ask whether a candidate agrees or disagrees with the organization’s positions. - Don’t invite an audience that will be supportive of some candidates and hostile to others — publicize the event widely.
Media	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on issues. - Script responses when speaking with reporters. - Issue a disclaimer (“As a nonprofit organization, we can’t endorse candidates”). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refrain from commenting on candidates. - Avoid discussing a candidate’s qualifications or record in a way that implies the candidate is good or bad (e.g., an endorsement).

ELECTION AND VOTER RESOURCES

IDSA and HIVMA Letters to the Candidates	
Democratic	Letter to Vice President Kamala Harris
Republican	Letter to Former President Donald Trump
Presidential Campaign-Related Websites	
Democratic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harris-Walz Campaign Website • Democratic Party Website
Republican	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trump-Vance Campaign Website • Republican Party Website
Election Guides for Nonprofits	
Alliance for Justice: Rules of the Game	Guide to federal tax and election laws that govern nonprofit organizations in an election year
Alliance for Justice: Bolder Advocacy Program	Information on how to safely engage in election-related activities
Health Issue Resources	
Kaiser Family Foundation: “Compare the Candidates on Health Care Policy”	Resources relevant to policy debates in the 2024 elections, including a side-by-side comparison of positions
Ballotpedia: “2024 Presidential Candidates on Sex and Gender Issues”	Statements compiled from candidates’ official campaign websites, editorials, speeches and debates
Kaiser Family Foundation: “The Politics of Health Care and the 2024 Election”	Paper about health care policy and its impact on the election
The Commonwealth Fund: “What’s at Stake in the 2024 Election for Women’s Health”	How the 2024 election may affect coverage of and access to women’s health care
Election Resources	
The Cook Political Report	Analysis of state, federal and presidential elections
AIDS United: “Election Center”	Resources for voters, including people with HIV
Human Rights Campaign: “We Show Up”	LGBTQI+ Voting Center resources
Williams Institute	Potential impact of voter identification laws on transgender voters in the 2022 general election (remains relevant for 2024)
The League of Women Voters: “Vote 411”	Election information, including voter registration
Voter Resources	
U.S. Election Assistance Commission: “Voter’s Guide to Federal Elections”	Guide to help voters navigate the federal elections process
Civic Nation Voter Resource Hub: “When We All Vote”	Check voter registration status, find polling places and access state voting rights information
NAACP: “A Vote for Democracy”	Election information and how to report election incidents
ACLU: “Know Your Voting Rights”	How to exercise your voting rights and access disability-related accommodations and language assistance
Vote.org	Dates by which you need to register to be able to vote and more information